

College of the Holy Cross

CrossWorks

---

The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

---

8-1-1985

## The Octofoil, August/September/October 1985

Ninth Infantry Division Association

Follow this and additional works at: <https://crossworks.holycross.edu/octofoil>



Part of the [Military and Veterans Studies Commons](#), [Military History Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Ninth Infantry Division Association, "The Octofoil, August/September/October 1985" (1985). *The Octofoil*. 262.  
<https://crossworks.holycross.edu/octofoil/262>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the 9th Infantry Division Association at CrossWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Octofoil by an authorized administrator of CrossWorks.

# THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Association Dues: \$5.00 per year — \$1.50 will be earmarked to pay for the Octofoil

Volume XXXV Number 4

Aug. Sept. Oct. 1985

## 41st Annual Memorial Mass and Service

Dear Dan,

It was a grand reunion in Orlando — and the committee is worthy of warm congratulations.

And now — Worcester — On Sunday, November 10, 1985, our 41st Annual Memorial Mass and Service. As usual, the Mass at 10:00 a.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church, Worcester, Mass. After the Mass our Annual Services at our 9th Infantry Division Memorial. Encased in the wall of this Memorial — on microfilm — are the names of our 4581 comrades who sacrificed their lives in combat. Also, in the Memorial wall is encased — on microfilm — the names of those members of the reactivated Ninth who made the supreme sacrifice in Vietnam. After these Services — luncheon at the Sheraton-Lincoln Inn.

On Saturday evening, November 9th, the troops gather at the Sheraton-Lincoln Inn. Some of my helpers will arrange for a buffet supper — and then we shall be entertained by one of our local fine orchestras. This should be a night of fun and talk and music.

Already Franny Maher was received over 150 reservations. We have signed for all the 140 rooms at the Sheraton-Lincoln Inn — and Franny has an agreement with Day's Inn and the renewed Holiday Inn for 50 more rooms.

In the fall I send out flyers to the 9th Division men whose addresses I have — and this is comparatively few. If anyone wishes to be on my list, let me know — Franny Maher. Each

year this is a highlight in my life — when I have the privilege of being host to so many 9th Division men and their families — as we pray for our Beloved Comrades who have gone off to God, and as we pray for a lasting Peace and Justice — and as we pray for one another — And, of course, we also have a lot of fun.

### Last Hurrah?

— and my 9th Infantry Division family — I really expect this to be my last hurrah — my last time in being host for this Annual pilgrimage to Worcester. To attend reunions is easy — but at my age to host a reunion is rather demanding — and I am approaching my 81st birthday. Bringing these pilgrimages to an end does not mean that my interest and love for my 9th Division family comes to an end. There will be no end to that.

So, may we have a grand gathering in Worcester on November 9 & 10, 1985. Men of all units, and all Faiths.

And Dan, every grace to you and Marie and your family. And thank you, Dan, for your dedicated service to the 9th Infantry Division Association.

Every day at Mass I pray for all those who served in the Ninth — those who have gone off to God — and the living and their families. I hope the gang says a prayer for Old Man Connors.

Good health and God bless,  
Father Connors  
(Roman VI)

87-5 Park Avenue  
Worcester, Ma. 01605

### LADIES CORNER

The Ladies Auxiliary would like to express their appreciation to all those who purchased raffle tickets. As most members know, since 1978 the Ladies Auxiliary has had a raffle at the reunions. We want to thank those who have donated something for the ladies to raffle and a thank you to the winners. This year we were very happy to get the Octofoil bedspread made for the ladies raffle by the mother of Robert Pappas of the Florida Chapter, and were saddened to hear of her death in May. Our prayers are for her. The winner of the bedspread was Ann Edie. Afghan donated by Ruth Lee and the winner was Mrs. L. Lewis, afghan donated by Lillian Gonzal and the winner was Helen Eagle.

At our meeting this year, we voted to give Father Jerry Rowan a check for \$500 to help our men at the VA Hospital of which he is associated. We are sure he will make good use of this money. In the May-June Octofoil it stated the check was for the Home of the Aged. This was an error, it is for the VA Hospital in Wichita, Kans.

Would like to thank the ladies of the Florida chapter for giving the officers of the auxiliary a flower during the reunion and also for arranging to have the Executive Chef of the Sheraton Twin Towers give a very interesting demonstration on making garnishes to decorate food. The new Officers for 1986-1987 are as follows: Pres. Wanda Preston, Vice-Pres. Beryl Pappas, Sec-Treas. Lillian Krasovetz, Chaplain Rosalie Painter.

This column was written by Lorraine Clark, Past President (1985).

## Headquarters for 1986 Reunion



Radisson Plaza Nashville is truly a remarkable hotel in a fascinating city. The striking trapezoidal design of the hotel has made it a landmark in downtown Nashville. And within the sculptured walls you'll find the special amenities and facilities that make this an outstanding hotel.

## Nashville sings out to the "Old Reliables"

It won't be easy, seeing a sizable chunk of Nashville, Tenn., during a single three-day weekend, but it can be done by the stout of heart and strong of purpose.

Naturally, the emphasis in Nashville is on country music, and most tourists come with that in mind. There are enough country-music attractions alone, in and around Music City, to fill up an entire vacation schedule.

### Kick Off Country Tour

The best place to kick off a country-music tour of Nashville is at the Ryman Auditorium downtown (116 Fifth Ave. North.)

Often referred to as the "mother church of country music," the caverous red-brick structure was indeed intended as a church by its architects in the 1890s.

But in 1943, the Ryman became the home of the venerable Grand Ole Opry, a distinction it held until a modernistic showplace in the Opryland theme park prevailed. On March 16, 1974, the Opry moved away

from the hapless Ryman forever, relegating it to the decaying part of town and to music history.

But the glory days of the Ryman (and of the Grand Ole Opry) all come back to visitors standing on the Ryman's dark, dusty stage. The floorboards are worn, the barn-door backdrop and brightly painted advertising boards seem garish, but the magic of Hank Williams and his ilk still live in the echoing, un-airconditioned Ryman.

Tour the Music Row area next, and plan a lengthy stop at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum at 4 Music Square East.

Though dedicated to the entertainers, composers and leaders of the country-music industry, the exhibits in the churchlike structure are interesting and diverse enough to keep a non-music fan enthralled. Especially fun for the fidgety are the museum's many electronic quizzes and games, all dealing with country music. Warning: These questions are not easy!

### Music Row

Music Row itself is the heartbeat of the country music industry. The business district is actually a U-shaped sector made up of 16th and 17th Avenues South (both one-way streets) and the intersecting streets in between.

Along with the tourists spots are headquarters of such major record labels as MCA, RCA, Warner Brothers and CBS, the corporate homes of many entertainers, and organizations such as the Country Music Association International, the Gospel Music Association, the Nashville Musicians' Union Local 257, and publishing concerns of worldwide music licensing agencies ASCAP and BMI.

Having dispensed with the basics, a bit of discretion is now advised. Personal tastes, time and pocket change dictate which of the other dozens of attractions you'll want to take in. A safe bet would be a sampler of some of the individuals stars' attractions.

Most notable among these is Conway Twitty's fashionable home and tourist complex, Twitty City, located northeast

of Nashville in Hendersonville. Twitty and his family literally live and work among the throngs of fans touring the manicured gardens and special exhibits, rides and Conway's Showcase (his life story in light and sound display). Admission is \$5.50 for adults and \$2 for children.

### House of Cash

Across the street from Twitty City, at 700 Johnny Cash Parkway in Hendersonville, is (you guessed it) the House of Cash. A true museum, the house contains Remington original bronzes, antique Colt pistols and other artifacts collected by Johnny and June Carter Cash, as well as a memorabilia segment devoted exclusively to the Carter family.

One interesting feature of the House of Cash is the fact that there's a free section if you don't want to pay the \$4.50 admission price but want to look around anyway. This first-floor gallery includes dozens of family photographs (Cash is an avid and accomplished photographer and painter), and out front is a most unusual vehicle depicting the Cash hit, *One Piece at a Time*.

Outside the House of Cash is Music City's most unique gift emporium, located in a railroad car. It's June Carter Cash's shop, where the star's own delicate crochet needlework is on sale at modest prices along with other exquisite handcrafts.

Back in Nashville, near Opryland along Music Valley Drive, are the Jim Reeves Museum (1023 Joyce Lane) and Bill Monroe's Bluegrass Hall of Fame & Museum (2620 Music Valley Drive). Reeves' museum contains a film of the Gentleman's last recording session, his stage costumes, touring bus and Cadillac. Admission is \$4 adults, \$3 children.

### Father of Bluegrass

Monroe's complex is a veritable trove of musical treasures from and about the Father of Bluegrass and his contemporaries. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2.50 for children.

## June 26-28 Reunion in Nashville 1986

THE OCTOFOIL

Form 2579 should be sent to  
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087  
Octofoil Associated Editors  
Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn

National Officers

President  
Norman Caswell  
1946 E 27th Street  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11229

Vincent Guglielmino, 1st V.P.  
114 Charles Street  
Floral Park, N.Y. 11001

Dave Heller 2nd VP  
618 Sumac  
Highland Park, ILL. 60635

Ronald Murphy, 3rd V.P.  
44 Strawberry Lane  
Scituate, Ma 02066

Harrison Daysh  
Judge Advocate  
4303 Carriage Court  
Kinsington, Md 20795

Thomas Boyle Treasurer  
39 Hall Avenue  
Sommerville, Mass 02144

Daniel Quinn Secretary  
412 Gregory Avenue  
Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Honorary Member Emeritus  
Father Edward Connors

Board of Governors

1986  
Larry Gherr  
Tulsa, Okla  
Robert Pannas  
New Port Richey, Fl.  
Ralph Carr

Cheverly Manor, Md.  
Elmer Wagner  
Bay City, Mich  
Harry Wax  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
1987

Norman Caswell  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Gil Pernokas  
Woburn, Ma  
Richard Starr

Philadelphia, Pa  
Robert DeSandy  
St. Clair Shores, Mi  
Louis Connors  
Churhton, Md

1988  
Fran Maher  
Worcester, Ma  
Pat DeColli  
Philadelphia, Pa

Carlos Esteve  
Arecibo, P.R.  
Lewis Gray  
Fontana, Wisc

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$5.00 per year with \$1.50 of the \$5.00 earmarked for the issues of The Octofoil. Members should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N.J. of any change in address.

Published five times yearly, May, June, July, -- Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov.-Dec., Jan-Feb., Mar-April by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, photographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition.

An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry Division Association reads: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the 9th Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusively of means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division."

Copy must be received on or before the 15th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th.

Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, N.J. Authorized as of October 1, 1967.

Publication No. 402820

Volume XXXV Number 4

Aug. Sept. Oct. 1985

47th Inf AT Co  
JULIUS ANDRASI  
92 Orlo Dr  
Zephyrhills, Fl. 34248

Just a line to express my appreciation to you for the good work you are doing on behalf of

the 9th Division. I'm moving to the Sunshine state Nov. 1st and my new address is as noted above.

THE MEMORIAL FUND OF  
THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
Scholarship Information

The Memorial Fund of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was established by the members of the association to commemorate the memory of their comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice in battle. As a part of this fund the association established a scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded each year to relatives of men who served in The Ninth Infantry Division. Each scholarship is for one year.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

A person who wishes to apply for a scholarship must be related to a man who served with The Ninth Infantry Division. Children of former members of the division will be given first consideration, but children of men killed in combat given first preference. Applicants who are not children of former members of the division will not be considered unless no child of a former member qualifies.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedures must be followed by those wishing to apply for the scholarships:

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating the following: name, address, age, and sex of the applicant; name, address, and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardians; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending or has attended and graduated; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the vocational goal of the applicant; and the name of and degree of relationship to a former member of the division. The unit and dates of service in the division of the former member must be included.
2. A transcript of the applicant's high school record must be included with the letter of application. The transcript must include at least the first seven semesters of the applicant's record.
3. The applicant must have a counselor or principal of the high school, he or she is attending write a letter of recommendation to the chairman of the scholarship committee.
4. The applicant must take the PSAT which is given every October. The applicant must see that the results of the PSAT are sent to the chairman of the scholarship committee. These results may be included with the high school transcript or sent to the chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. The SAT of the CEEB may be submitted in lieu of the PSAT.
5. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
6. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
7. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
8. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, a financial statement, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.
9. All applications must be sent to

John J. Clouser,  
Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division  
1088 N. Circle Drive, Crystal River, Florida 32629

TAPS SOUNDED

With profound regret and remorse we announce the passing of these "Old Reliables" and friends.

Horace E. Clary, Jr.  
47th Inf. 2nd Bn  
Richard Kinkennon  
47th Inf. M Co.  
Ken Erway  
39th Inf. C Co.  
Mrs. Betty Wolfe  
(Wife of Ray of 60th Inf. A Co.)

Harry Rushey  
60th Inf. Serv. Co.  
C.C. Larry Dalton  
2nd Bn 60th Inf.  
Robert L. Gibson  
A Co. 15th Engrs.  
Steve Dobrino

A Co. 15th Engrs.  
Ward S. Ryan  
60th Inf. AT  
Anthony Repetti  
47th Inf. F Co.  
Gene Dillman  
Co. L 60th Inf.

May they rest in peace. To their families and loved ones we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Octofoil regrets the error in printing the death of George Heris, 9th QM. Our sympathy goes to him and the family on the death of Mrs. Heris.

\*\*\*\*\*

60th Inf A Co  
RAY WOLFE  
Rt 1  
Collins, Ohio 44826

Betty and I went to Orlando June 6th to 10th for the reunion. We had a nice time. Our 2 older granddaughters were with us of which the oldest received a scholarship. We even took in Disney's Epcot Center. I took Betty to the emergency room Tuesday morning, June 11th for fluid on her lungs. They ran other tests also. She was doing better and wanting to come home which she did on Monday the 17th. I was with her except for a few minutes to run an errand. She assured me she was alright and would be fine. When I came back I noticed a couple containers of strawberries sitting on the steps and knew something was wrong. I found Betty on the bedroom floor. I worked on her between then and taking her back to the emergency room, but she was gone.

39th Inf C Co  
REV. DR. FABIAN  
REINHART  
PO Box 737  
Artesia, N.M. 88210

It is with deep regret that I pass on to the Octofoil the news that an old combat buddy has gone on to his reward. On August 29th, 1985, Ken Erway of RD 2, Box 241, Bath, NY 14810 died of a heart attack. He had a massive heart attack back in 1980 and was later diagnosed as having cancer, for which he had been under treatment for the last two years. He is survived by his wife, Mary, two daughters and one son.

Ken was my ammo man (I carried the BAR) when we were in C Company, 39th Infantry, 9th Division. He was a good man and saved my hide more than once. Though I haven't seen him since about 1967, I'll miss hearing from him.



STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT  
AND CIRCULATION

(Act of October 23, 1962: Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)  
1. Date filed: 9/27/85 2. Title of Publication: THE OCTOFOIL.  
3. Frequency of Issue: Bi-Monthly. 4. Location of known office of publication: 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J. - Hudson County. 5. Location of headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publisher: 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N. J. - Hudson County. 6. Name and address of the Publisher and Editor: Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J.

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Single Issue Nearest to Filing Date
Extent and Nature of Circulation		
A. Total No. Copies Printed (Net Press Run)	2100	2100
B. Paid Circulation		
1. Sales through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Counter Sales	None	None
2. Mail Subscriptions	1950	1950
C. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)	1950	1950
D. Free Distribution By Mail, Carrier or Other Means Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies	50	50
E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	2000	2000
F. Copies Not Distributed		
1. Office Use, Left Over, Unaccounted, Spoiled After Printing	100	100
2. Returns From News Agents	None	None
G. Total (Sum of E, F1 and 2-- should equal net press run shown in A)	2100	2100
11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.		

DANIEL QUINN, Editor and Publisher, The Octofoil.

47th Inf. F Co.  
ED "HOPPY" HOPKINS  
110 Hollywood Ave.  
Metuchen, N.J. 08840

This is one of the saddest letters I have ever had to write in my life. Tony Repetti died Monday, October 28th. He will be sorely missed by his family and friends. I feel privileged to be numbered among the latter. So many of us in the Forty-seventh Infantry's Second Battalion shared so much with him: joy, grief, fear, strength, and courage! His life touched so many of us, and always in a positive way. Any feeble attempts that I may make at eulogizing this man will be pale when compared with the life he lived. In life he was a man of honor, faith, courage, integrity, justice, and love. Tony lived by a code whose foundation had to be love of his fellow man. Tony will live on in the memories of those men of the Second Battalion, especially his buddies of Company "F". Our condolences are extended to his grieving family.

Editors Note: Ed Hopkins contacted men that lived in the area and the following attended the Funeral Services: Ed Hopkins, Al Munatore, Vince Guglielmino, George Gaynor, Rod Hoffman, Lou Slatnick, Jack Finnegan and Dan Quinn.

15th Engrs A & B Co  
ERNEST L. NEWHART, JR.  
77 W. Ferry St.  
New Hope, Pa. 18938

This is to inform you that Steve Dobrino, A Co. 15th Engrs. died suddenly at his home in Chicago. Those of us who regularly attend the reunions and who took the 1970 trip to Europe will remember "Doby" as a tall, silent real nice guy. He will be missed by all of his engineer buddies.

60th Inf E Co  
NORBERT J. "CHICK" HENNEN  
4130 Washburn Ave., N.  
Minneapolis, Mn. 55412

A good friend and sturdy competitor, C.C. "Larry" Dalton died of cardiac arrest 26 September 1985. Larry was one of the original Ninth Infantry Division cadre in tent city. He was the first commanding officer of Company F, while I head E Company, which made us rivals in the housekeeping department. He was the executive officer of the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, when we waded ashore in Africa.

His widow, "De" plans to stay in the homestead -- Route 6, Box 20, Galesburg, Illinois 61401.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn.  
412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name ..... Serial No. ....  
Street Address .....  
City ..... Zone ..... State .....  
I was a member of:  
Battery ..... Company ..... Regiment ..... 9th Div  
I wish to sign up for the following:  
Regular Member, per year ..... \$5.00 ☐  
Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund ..... ☐  
THREE-YEAR MEMBER ..... \$13.00 ☐  
Life Membership ..... \$50.00 ☐  
Ladies' Auxiliary Member ..... \$ 2.00 ☐  
Please credit the following chapter:  
Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐  
Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐  
New England ☐ Michigan ☐  
Ohio ☐ Fayetteville ☐  
Florida ☐ Fort Bragg, N.C. ☐

## HEAVY WEAPONS

"Heavy Weapons: An Account of the World War II Travels and Travails of M Company, 47th Infantry," is in the mail to about 85 veterans of that unit and some of their survivors. This mostly oral history of an infantry heavy weapons company is the production of a former unit officer, Henry G. "Red" Phillips of Penn Valley, California. About a year ago, struck by his realization that he remained in contact with but one member of the old company, Phillips began a search and turned up 74 who were "alive and kicking" plus a number of others whose time had come. Later came the thought of writing up a history of M Company as it was recalled by those who had participated in its campaigning in Africa and Europe.

### Monthly Journal

"Red" Phillips is now co-publisher and editor of a monthly journal in his community of Lake Wildwood, California. He joined M Company at Fort Bragg in August, 1942, and "with good time off for hospitals and R&R," he was still there when the dust finally settled in 1945. His book, originally reported upon in *The Octofoil* (January-February, 1985) as "The Search for Ira Rosenfeld," is his first such effort. The title was changed, he says, "because finding Ira turned out to be easier than expected and the book really became the story of the entire M Company as memories and anecdotes came flooding in." Phillips is hoping for a commercial publication, "as I believe it will be of general interest for it seems to trigger recollection and nostalgia. M Company's experiences were not unique except that they seem to have gone on for an exceptionally long time. I expect 'Heavy Weapons' to prove to be universally appealing as it has many observations and lessons which are timeless. I hope it takes off commercially because we really only accounted for a small part of those who participated in M Company's adventures. Altogether we know that there was a turn-over of over 300% from the time the unit left Fort Bragg to VE Day. There are lots of stories we have not heard yet. They should have a place in history."

"Red" Phillips may be contacted at 14002 Hemlock Dr., Penn Valley, CA 95946, or by phone (916) 432-1409.

Editor's Note: Enjoyed reading the 200 page booklet of the travels and travails of M Co 47th by Red Phillips, especially since I spent the last 10 months of my Army life with the 3rd Bn of the 47th Inf. - July 44 to April of 45.



Gathering at Paul Clark's home in Waynestown, Ind. in September. From left to right, Bill Hennemuth, Ted Preston, Mike Belmonte, Bill Morton, Charles Walker, Woody Canter, and Paul Clark. Present but not in the picture was Lou Gray. All 60th F.A.

## Tip of the Hat

Remembering the Memorial Fund and their buddies who have answered their last roll call we salute the following members and friends.

Boardman Lockwood (In memory of Ray Wolfes wife, Betty)  
Thomas L. Cobb  
Raymond Kennedy  
Carl Winter (In memory of 60th Cannon men)  
Lawrence Emmerich  
Ladies Auxiliary  
Thomas L. Harris  
George W. Cyphers  
Gerald Teachout (In memory of Walter Pastel)  
Warren Bascone  
Norbert J. Hennen (In memory of Col. C.C. "Larry" Dalton)

## Help Confirm Incident

I wrote and received a response from Historical SUC's Division and they referred me to you for more information. On March 18, 1945 during a vicious counter attack near the village of Windhagen, Germany, I was wounded and taken captive by their forces. The Company Morning Report I received from personnel records does not show the actual capture and I can't find a reason why. Another G.I. was interned at the time. I'm trying to find facts to confirm an incident that actually happened for my personal benefit. An incident like this is hard to forget even at this late time. I would appreciate any kind of help or proof or an answer of some sort. Thank you for any response you can get me.

Manuel J. Yrafida  
Ser #39590361  
39th Inf. Co. E  
3651 Claremore Ave.  
Long Beach, Ca. 90808

47th Inf Hq Co S2  
EDDIE KRAUSE  
706 Riverside Dr.  
Palmetto, Fl. 33561

Had intended to be in Florida this year but had to go to Akron, Michigan for my cousin passed away. He left here with his wife from their trailer home in Bradenton and 3 weeks later he was gone. May I add my congratulations to the officers of the association for this year especially Elmer Wagner who is from our Michigan Chapter. God bless all of you, always and walk with God and he will walk with you.

## Nashville in 1986

If you think time heals all wounds, try sitting it out in a doctor's office.

## Sick Call

Reporting on Sick Call:  
General Donald Clayman underwent surgery shortly after the reunion in Florida.

Father Connors had checked in the hospital for a series of tests and at this writing was still on Sick Call.

Jake Laskau (Co. A 47th) is recovering after a major operation and is recovering at home. When we visited him at the VA hospital several months ago there was old Jake sitting in the community room puffing away on a cigarette.

Drop them a get well card:  
General Donald Clayman (Ret)  
805 Bay Colony Dr.,  
Virginia Beach, Va. 23451

Father Edward Connors  
87-5 Park Avenue  
Worcester, Mass. 01605

Jake Laskau  
65-45 Yellowstone Blvd.  
Forest Hills, N.Y. 11375

## Help Needed

My father, Ernest A. Spear was a member of the 26th FA. He passed away in 1977. I have now reached a point where I would like to contact anyone who may have served with him in North Africa, Sicily, England and especially France and Germany. I would like to retrace 'his' steps so-to-speak by locating the towns, cities and other vicinities he may have been along with the relative dates.

We tentatively plan on returning to Germany and Belgium in the 1990's and hope to have some of the above mapped out.

I was stationed at Wuerzburg W. Germany between 1974-78, and I entered the Army in '72. Since my separation from active service in '78, I have been a member of the Oregon Army National Guard as a part-timer.

I would appreciate any guidance or assistance you may be able to offer. Thank you.

Edward E. Spear  
604 S. 10th St.  
Cottage Grove, Ore. 97424

47th Inf. Co's G & Hqs.

JEROME SHAPIRO

739 W 186th St.

New York, N.Y. 10033

Enjoying my retirement with books, magazines and newspapers, even the N.Y. Yankees are improving but not much. Received a letter from Jim Leopold formerly Capt. of Hq. Co. 2nd Bn 47th, he is well and happy in Chicago. Jim recalled the day he saw me in El Guettar delivering a message without a rifle but with a shovel. He asked me "why a shovel" and I said "a shovel was more appropriate," and he had little to respond. Capt. Leopold did great work that first night at El Guettar on a night patrol. He and his men picked up many wounded off the hill and carried them to the aid station. He inquired about one, Stanley Aronstein, a 60mm man from G Co. Does anyone know the whereabouts of Aronstein and how badly he was wounded? I think he lived in Queens. Hoping to see a big turnout from G Co. & Hq. Co. 47th in Orlando. God Bless All.

34th FA  
HARRY P. CHASE  
801 Lake Shore Dr  
Lake Park, FL 33403

I am sorry I could not make the Orlando reunion. We were moving back north for the summer. I look forward to receiving the Octofoil and read every line. I get a wonderful feeling when I see the names of some of the fellows from my outfit. It brings a lot of memories. Keep healthy and good luck.

## Hello Everybody,

## I'm Lindsey Nelson

If you are bored watching the same old tired T.V. shows and are looking for something to keep you occupied these autumn evenings, we have a remedy for your boredom. Go out and buy yourself a copy of Lindsey Nelson's Autobiography "Hello Everybody, I'm Lindsey Nelson." If you do, you will be guaranteed many hours of enjoyable and informative reading. Opening this book is like putting your hand into a bag of peanuts, once you get started you can't stop. Finish one chapter and you will want to go on to the next and before you realize it, it will be long past your bedtime.

Although the book is an autobiography, Lindsey keeps a low profile. He yields the center stage to the many famous individuals that he has met during his career as both a soldier and a famous sportscaster. Lindsey has the knack of making these individuals come alive and when he describes an incident that occurred either on the battlefield or the playing field, he does it in a way that makes you feel like a spectator at the event. Lindsey believes that the years he spent with the Ninth were some of the most eventful in his life. He has never forgotten them and four chapters of his book are devoted to those

days. Lindsey was with the Ninth from Fort Bragg to V-E Day. He saw the division develop into the best infantry division in the E.T.O. Later on he would go through a similar experience when he watched the Mets, a group of rinky-dink ballplayers, develop into a championship team.

Lindsey's sportscasting career covered baseball and both college and professional football and he had an intimate acquaintance with many of the great players. His sport stories take you inside locker rooms and gives you an insight into what makes the teams click. Those of you who have grandsons who play baseball or football will have to keep a close eye on your copy of the book because sure as shooting those young fellows will try to snatch the book before you finish it.

"Hello Everybody, I'm Lindsey Nelson" is published by the Beech Tree Books, William Morrow & Co. Inc., 105 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016. If your favorite book store doesn't have a copy get them to order it for you. Incidentally, this book would make a great Christmas gift. If you know an "Old Reliable" who has everything, surprise him with a copy of Lindsey's book.

## MINI REUNION

60th Inf M. Co  
ROBERT BOVANIZER, SECT  
14 Sabre Park  
Niagara Falls, NY 104304

Allen and Mary Luce were Hosts this year for the 3rd Mini Reunion of 60th Inf M Co men on Aug. 12, 13 and 14th. The Reunion was at the Holiday Inn in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, but we traveled to Luce's lovely home on Lake Winniconne at Winneconne, Wi., for a picnic supper on Tues. We also had a ride on a paddle wheel boat, a trip to the Experimental Aircraft Association Museum, the Payne Arboretum and the City of Oshkosh Museum to see a collection of General Eddys mementos, given to the museum by his wife, also a huge Apostle Clock. Of course every one visited a cheese factory. The ladies got in a lot of shopping. A few factory outlets, Lenox China and the Genuine Article (Osgosh B'Gosh) and the Malls and Antique Shops. We had no sooner arrived when the reporter for the local newspaper and his photographer arrived and the enclosed write up appeared next day in the paper. This was our largest reunion so far. Total attendance 41 (25 men and 16 of their ladies). We now have 79 men on our company roster. The men voted to return to Florence, Ala. for next years reunion, the 3 days prior to the National Reunion in Nashville. The committee for this event will be The Buchanans, The Hornadys and The Stansells. I am sure you will hear from them when plans are a little further along. The weather was beautiful, the food was exceptional and the company was the best. We all had a terrific time. Thanks loads to Allen and Mary Luce.

June 26-28  
Reunion in Nashville  
1986

## Look Into It!

Since a lot of us are over 65 and worried about our health, perhaps this letter may give you second thoughts about your medical coverage.

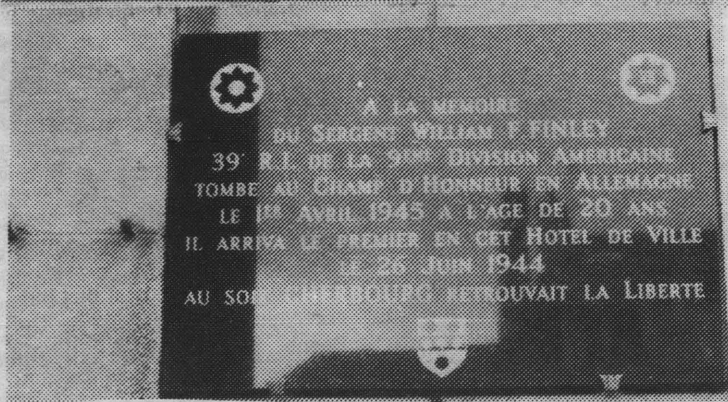
First, let me stress that I am not affiliated or paid by any company that sells medical coverage. Personally, I take the following prescription medication:-Tenormin, (Beta Blocker) Digoxin, Dyazide, Hydralazine, & Nitro-glycerin (transdermal patches) —And I were to purchase these medications at the corner pharmacy, it would cost me an arm and a leg, plus a bucket of blood. However, since I belong to an HMO (Health Maintenance Organization) I get this medication for \$2.00 per prescription (Month Supply) Also, I have access to a variety of doctors (Cardiologists, Endocrinologists, Orthopedists, Dermatologists, Optometrists, etc.) — EKGs, X-Rays, Electrolyte Profiles, even minor surgery are done on the premises. — And, if hospitalization is necessary for other tests or surgery, that too is paid for by the HMO. HMOs are beginning to proliferate throughout the country. — Locally, my plan is called the Medical West Community Health SENIOR PLAN for which I pay a Quarterly premium of \$78.50 to Blue Cross/Blue Shield, plus the Medicare deduction from my S.S. check.

In my case, the HMO even beats the VA hospital as to over-all cost and 'convenience.' — So if you are paying thru the nose for prescription medication, or thinking about convenience or emergencies, if there is an HMO in your locality, look into it!

47th Inf. M Co.  
'Bill' Kowalczyk  
30 Marlborough St.  
Chicopee, Ma 01020



## Down Memory Lane



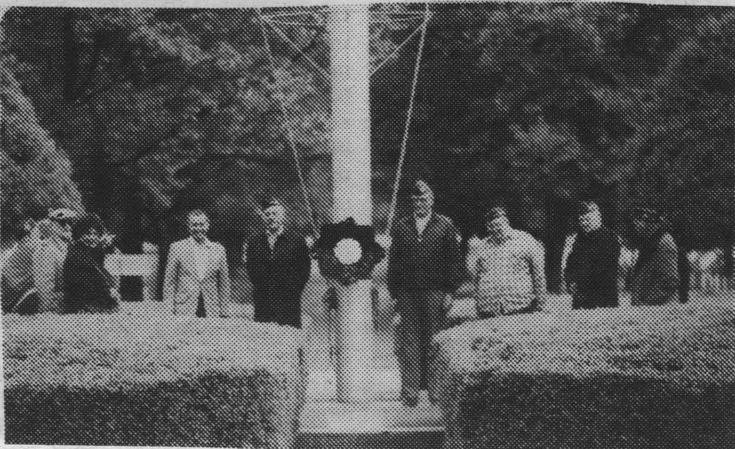
William Maloney Company F 39th Inf. sent this photo of plaque on the Hotel De Ville honoring Sgt. Finley of the 39th. Second photo shows the plaque up close. Story is in Mail Call.



Pictured at the Florida reunion holding their original Company G 39th Infantry Guidon are from left to right: Ed Zeno, Bill Canary, Ed Fielding, Anton Dietrich, John Fasel, and Carlos Esteva. Story appears in Bill Canary's letter in Mail Call.



Adolph Wadalavage sent this photo taken at Orlando of the M.P.'s left to right Preston Stillings, Jack Nailor, Ken Meyer, Gerry Bryant. Seated (l. to r.) Adolph, Father Jerry Rowan, and John Maloney.



New Yorkers are shown at Pinelawn National Cemetery on Long Island last May when they remembered their fallen comrades. Shown left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Levy, Hermino Suarez, Tony Varone, George Brown, Art Schmidt and Matty Dempsey.

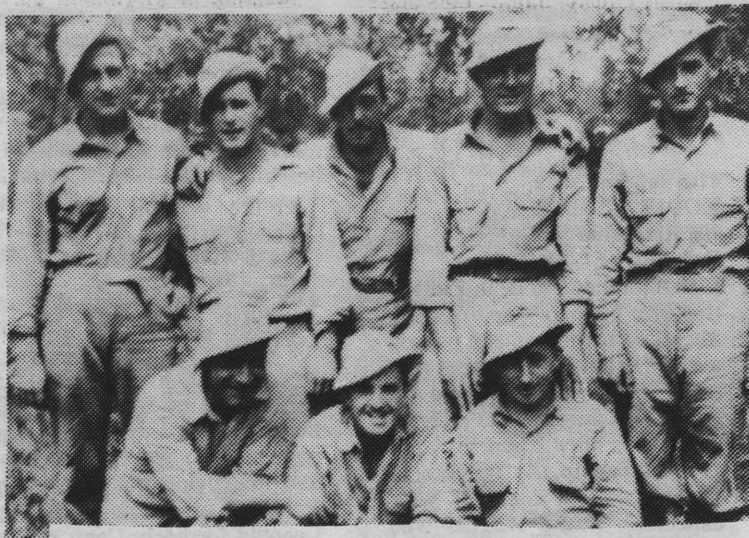
**The deadline for copy of the next issue of the Octofoil will be December 28th.**



C.B. Baker supplies us with photo taken April 1943 - Sedjenane Valley, N. Africa. Members of Regimental Medical Section are shown (l. to r.) Major Donald Roberts, Captain Plotkin, Captain Hagood, Chaplain Sharp and kneeling Lt. Abend.



C.B. Baker received this photo from Doctor Hagood before Doc passed on and it shows Sgt. Sieben (Later Lt.) in N. Africa May 1943 with a couple of Goomes soldiers.



George Nicklin sends this photo of members of Company K 47th Inf. taken in 1941 at Fort Bragg (it must have been around the time the new light tan fatigue hat was issued) - shown left to right standing: Frank Camden, Cido Patire, Bill Van Houten, Bob Nedwell, Carson Cousins. Kneeling Silverius Galvin, Genaro Roberto, Elmer Dodson.



Captain Leo (Pat) Williamson of Florida, receives the Silver Star award from Major General Louis A. Craig. (Dated 11/44) Picture was found in the files of the secretaries office.

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column? Just a postal card would denote your interest and let some buddy know where you are. You like to read what other members send in . . . why not do your own part, and write a few lines now and then for their enjoyment.

### WOULD ENJOY HEARING

In 1944, I served one night a week as a volunteer in the American Red Cross in Winchester, Hampshire, where many of the customers were from the 9th. Infantry. After you landed in France on D-day plus four, a sergeant I knew the best was killed; I still have his dime on my bracelet. Later my mother and I visited another friend in a U.S. hospital in Devon. He was the last one we saw because we left Winchester in February 1945 and did not have any home addresses. We heard eventually that two friends called when the new occupiers were out and the neighbours did not know our address. If anyone wrote, no letters were forwarded.

My father died in 1946 and things became confused. Well now, last year I was invited to dine with the 17th. Airborne Division Association in Winchester and I fell to thinking of the 9th. Infantry. I've been months in pursuit of your address but somewhat slowed up because my mother fell ill on January 6th and died on July 14.

If anyone remembers my Wilkins family at 80, Brassey Road, Winchester, I shall be thrilled to receive a letter. My sister is Dinah, my brother is Oliver. Below are the names I can remember. Even if none of them or others remembers us, please be assured I shall enjoy hearing from anyone who likes to write. And if any 9th. Infantryman comes to England without calling on me, I'll be greatly offended!

Pfc Manzie Wallace (Acey) Wall of Atco, Georgia.

Doyle V. Blalock of Alabama. Ken Myer, Military Police, of Akron, Ohio.

Tony Klimas and Tony Schacht, Pioneer Corps, both of New York.

JEAN WILKENS  
46 Elmfield Avenue  
Teddington, Middlesex  
TW11 8BT  
England

### HELPING IN WRITING A BOOK

At long last I am in the process of writing THE GI'S WAR, and have now come to the North African campaign. I find that I have need for some personal accounts. (or one account, at least) from someone in the Ninth Infantry Division.

What would be best for the book would be to find someone who kept a diary or wrote a narrative of those days very shortly after the war. These days, we are all getting along, and memory does not always serve us so well.

If you know of someone in the unit who has such material I would very much like to be put in touch with them quite soon, since, as usual, once a publisher contracts for a book, as Stein and Day has for this, it is all hurry up, just like the army.

My book, which started out as a book about Normandy, now covers the entire ETO campaigns. I would prefer the story of an enlisted man, but company officers and even battalion will do.

Edwin Hoyt  
Ellwood  
Betterton, Md. 21610  
301-348-2201

**If you are planning on moving please notify the secretary of your new address. It will save postage and keep you on the Octofoil mailing list.**

The most important thing a mother can do for her daughter is instill in her the will to shop.



# To "B" (47th) Or Not To "B"

Greetings once again to all our "BECO" buddies from the Keystone State of Pennsylvania. By the time you will be reading this column we will have attended the 41st Annual Memorial Mass and Ecumenical Service which was held at the Immaculate Conception Church in Worcester, Mass. on Sunday November 10, 1985. As we write this column we are admiring the beautiful Fall Foliage Colors which we in the Cumberland Valley of Pennsylvania are privileged to witness each year. It is a pictorial scene in all its beauty to challenge the best of artists to reproduce on canvas.

## Happy & Proud

We are indeed very happy and proud that one of our "BECO" BUDDIES Norman Caswell has been elected to the high office of President of the 9th Inf. Div. Association for the year 1985-1986. Congratulations Norm! Our wishes also go to you for a most successful reign. Opportunity To Visit Nashville

To those of you "BECO" buddies who have never been to Nashville, Tennessee, you now have the opportunity to do so. As you probably know Nashville is the home of the "Grand Ole Opry". We have been there twice and loved every minute of it. Nashville has now become the Mecca for many of the world's best popular entertainers. There is entertainment of all kinds to suit every taste. We can assure you that you will not be disappointed. Suggest you make your reservations early for the 41st Annual Reunion of the 9th Inf. Div. Association in Nashville, Tenn. on June 26, 27, 28, 1986, at the Radisson Plaza Hotel. Details will appear in the Octofoil.

We want to commend also Adolph Wadavalage and the membership of the N.Y. Chapter for having our 9th Division History Book "8 Stars to Victory" placed in the Library of Hofstra College in Long Island, N.Y.

## Stay In Shape

We have had a very good summer and are indeed happy to say that we are in pretty good health, stay in shape by walking at least 3 miles daily. I was delighted to place 4th in the 2400 meters race walk (approx. 1 1/2 miles) Pa. State Sr. Olympics which was held at Shippensburg University this past August. It was a great feeling just to be able to compete against truly great senior athletes from all over the State of Pennsylvania. Some of our "BECO" Buddies have written to our Octofoil, however we would like to see more correspondence pertaining to our "BECO" buddies. Just a postcard or a note will do, just to keep in touch. O.K.? O.K.! Keep well all of you! Until next time our sincerest wishes to all our "BECO" Buddies and their families.

PAT J. MORANO  
2208 Lincoln Way East  
Chambersburg, Pa. 17201  
and  
ART J. STENZEL  
8705 Village Mill Row  
Bayonet Point, Florida 33567

9th Div Blue Band  
DAVID GOODMAN  
Wymoor Village  
2101 Lucaya Bend #G3  
Coconut Creek, FL 33066

Sorry for the delay, enclosed is a check for dues. Since I've retired, I've done lots of traveling and have been out of the

## Illinois Chapter

At this writing, the Illinois and Michigan Chapters are getting ready to attend our Mini Outstate Reunion in Angola. We are looking forward to a successful gathering and renewing friendships.

### PASSED SO QUICKLY

The summer has passed so quickly starting with the early National Reunion in Orlando where I attended alone. I have been to 32 of the 40 reunions but it was in Orlando, Florida that I received my great big surprise. Not one, but three "A" Battery men made their first appearance ever at a 9th reunion. Hughie "Buck" Elliot from Dover, Tennessee, Edward "Windy" Frund, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and Norris C. Gray from nearby Milbourne, Florida. All three had left early in June of 1945 before the Association was formed and not until this year had they any inkling of what had been going on the past 40 years. Gray has just retired from NASA, the Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida where he was a Flight Engineer. Elliot is a retired farmer and Frund also is retired. Of course, I'll see Ed Frund and his wife Virginia at Angola, Indiana again this year. The Michigan and Illinois out-of-state mini-reunion will meet on October 18th. Besides Michigan and Illinois, we have quite a few Wisconsin, Indiana and Ohio members also joining us.

### HERE-N-THERE

Last week I dropped in to see Melvin Jaggi in Verona, Wisconsin. Jaggi has quit milking cows and has rented out his farm. Since his wife Leona passed away, Jaggi stays close to home.

Dom Greco and his wife, Lonnie, who has made as many reunions as I, along with Ed, Buck, Norris and their wives gave "A" Btry. a good account of itself at the reunion.

Maybe next year at Nashville, we may run into a few more pleasant surprises.

The Illinois Chapter met on September 14th at the Clark's in Waynestown, Indiana. We had a good showing from the 60th F.A. We welcomed back Bill and Maureen Morton from Covington, Indiana. Maureen recently suffered a stroke but is well on the mend. Also present were the Grays and Prestons from Wisconsin, the Canters from Indiana, the Clarks, Belmontes and a newcomer Charles and Lenore Walker from Fairfield, Illinois. We spent an enjoyable day shooting the breeze and eating all day. The troops retired to Holiday Inn for the night and back to the Clarks for breakfast on Sunday morning before starting our journey home.

We also want to report that Larry Ghare had by-pass surgery in June and that he is doing well. We expect him at Angola if the doctors give him an OK to travel from Oklahoma. We understand Kay wasn't feeling too well but is much better now. They have a new address, P.O. Box 54445, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74155.

Mike and Ann Belmonte  
1161 South Lombard Ave.  
Oak Park, Illinois  
60304

country for some time. Enjoy reading the Octofoil. Haven't heard anything from the Blue Band. Where are they all?

Small town: Place where, if you see a girl dining with a man old enough to be her father, he is.

## FLORIDA GATOR NEWS

On the week end of Oct. 11th and 12th, the Florida Chapter of the 9th Division held their bi-annual meeting at the Holiday Inn, Tampa Airport area.

Friday afternoon started the Hospitality room up and folks congregated to talk over all the goings on since the National meeting in Orlando. Friday evening we had a very delightful meal in a private dining room reserved for us 'Old Reliables'. It was a clam bake affair served buffet style. 43 people were served and I didn't hear of one single complaint.

### OPEN CONTINUOUSLY

As usual our C.P. room was open continuously on both Friday and Saturday. There was plenty of liquid refreshment served both days and, as usual, the girls served lots of extra tid-bits in the way of extra food. The gals, of course, always do a good job to keep our mess kits filled.

Saturday morning our gang was served a buffet style breakfast which was once again well attended.

After breakfast the men and women both held their separate meetings. There was much discussion in the men's meeting in regard to the National meeting held in June in Orlando pro and con, but as the whole, everybody, was well satisfied with Orlando. This was our first time as a Florida Chapter to sponsor our National event.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

New officers were elected for the year '85 and '86 as follows: Robert Pappas, President; Irv King, Vice President; Phil Berman, Secretary; and Bruce Johnston, Treasurer.

In April of '86, we plan our meeting in Altamonte Springs near Orlando and if plans can be finalized to our advantage, we will have a four or five day meeting and fun time in Puerto Rico. This is scheduled for October of '86.

Saturday night our gang went to the Country Dinner Playhouse for a buffet dinner and show. Dawn Wells of Gilligan's Island fame starred in the old favorite "Same Time Next Year". It was a fantastic show and very good dinner. All the Credit for our super planned weekend is due to our one and only Henry Santos, with Eva's help of course, who made all the arrangements for our entertainment, as well as meals and Hotel.

Marty Shankman was accompanied by his daughter and 2 grandchildren, and Billy Bongiorno from Massachusetts, who is now a resident of Deltona, Fla. and has joined our Chapter. We had more new people for the first time and I failed to get their names, so I appologize with promises to do better in the future.

Guess this is all for the time being from our Florida Chapter, except to say, we missed the gang from Alabama and if any of you 9th people want to join us in Puerto Rico, for Oct. 8, 1986 let me know by at least reunion time in Nashville. Florida sends its best to Dan and Marie for all the good work they do. Keep it up, we need you!

Robert Pappas, President  
738C518, Box 175  
New Port Richey, Fla. 33552  
Phone 813-847-6607

## Nashville in 1986

Cocktail party: gathering at which you meet people who drink so much you can't even remember their names.

## New Yorkers

With the summer gone the lads are looking forward to getting some real business accomplished in the New York Chapter.

We are certainly looking forward to attending the Memorial Mass, in Worcester, Mass. held by Father Connors, November 9th-10th.

Our annual Christmas party will be held from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, December 8th at the Elks Club, in Weehawken, N.J. again and we hope to see more new faces as we did last year.

The New York Chapter area boys will have a definite date to officially place our division history, "Eight Stars to Victory" in Hofstra University library by our November meeting - it should be between November 11 and December 5th - during the day hours. It would be worth while for all the New York men, especially those who live on Long Island to attend. It will be covered by the University paper and local media. Any one interested in attending call me at (718) 845-4688 for further information. What say fellows - let's show them we will never forget the 4581 we left behind.

Surprising how much attention is paid to an insert in the "Octofoil." A few issues ago I requested information about the time the Ludendorf Bridge collapsed. I've received ten replies which have been forwarded to the Scottish Historian - a few other lads have promised to write - I'm still waiting, especially for those who spoke to me at the Orlando reunion - any chance of hearing from you?

Once again if anyone could help me contact Clinton Hudgins I sure would appreciate it - I've written every place I have been told with no luck.

ADOLPH WADALAVAGE  
94-30 96th St.  
Ozone Park, N.Y. 11416

SERVICE BATTERY  
Twenty Six Field  
Artillery Battalion

### IN MEMORIAM

Peter Greco

Joseph McGuckin

The announcement for this Mass was made in the May, June, July, 1985 issues of the OCTOFOIL. I am sure that by this time your plans to attend are complete.

Information has been received that may alter the plans and goals of our association. Fr. Connors is confined to the Hanemann Hospital, Worcester, as he is a very sick man. No visitors, no phone calls are allowed. "His condition is serious" is from the only person to see Fr. Connors. When you say your daily prayers, say an extra one for his speedy recovery. The Mass as planned last summer will be celebrated on Sunday, November 10, 1985.

I have been sending a news letter to Peter Greco since its first edition. This past summer I asked an ex-infantryman from Trenton to check on Peter. He did. Peter died about 15 years ago. Bill Sacco had a serious operation this past March. His condition is good but his working days are over. You have the address of Sheriff Leach. Send a card to him.

Cecil Williamson has joined the ranks of the retired. His hobbies are his lawn and his garden and both keep him busy. Post Office Box 3132, Bartlesville, Oklahoma is the new address of Bernice Kirby, a 26FA man from Tent City until he was sent on cadre during

the spring of 1942. Bill Bongiorno is now a permanent resident of 2018 East Prairie Circle, Deltona, Florida. When are you coming back, Bill? Joe Mosier could not take this lazy retired life any longer so he returned to work.

Joe Albanese, Elmer Roscoe, Harry Fry, Pergi and myself have reservations at the Sheraton. John Murray always enjoys his trip to Worcester. John P. Quinn lives about 15 minutes away so he will be there. How about you? Francis Maher of 14 Davenport Street, Worcester, phone 1-617-756-1803, should be able to find a place for you to rest your weary bones.

On Sunday, August 25th, Joyce and Elmer Roscoe were honored by their family and friends on the occasion of their fortieth wedding anniversary.

Practice your Country and Western music because you are going to Nashville in 1986.

9th Med's  
WILLIAM HAAS  
914 Whittier Dr.  
Allentown, Pa. 18103

No doubt about it, I'm truly sorry not to have been able to attend the 9th Division Reunion in Orlando, Florida. From the info I've received thus far, it was truly great. Perhaps conditions in '86 may be a bit more conducive to our going, while it may also be closer to home. I know that George Stein, "Pete" Radichio, and Jack Wilson — former members of Co. B of the 9th Medics — attended this year's get-together. That was my "home" for nearly four years. Yeah! I wonder if there were other former buddies who went on down to Orlando, or

A few days ago I was really surprised to receive a really beautiful picture-postcard from Austria. You surely know how fabulous some of the scenery is there. The truly unusual part, though, was that the card was mailed by Edward "Sooty" Rhoads, another good friend and worthy soldier of Co. B — certainly, the 1st word I've had from him in 40 years! But here's the clincher: While he mentioned that he and his wife live in Vienna, ol' "Sooty" never included an address. That's where the staff of The Octofoil could be helpful, because he stated that he had gotten my address from your beloved pages.

Therefore, I would appreciate getting not only Roads' address, but hearing from any other overseas' comrade of said Co. B.

By the way, it's good to have our own Company History, and I would personally like to give credit and thank the one or ones who put it together in '45. It's a splendid reference. Also, I have nearly completed the re-typing of that illustrious booklet, because my copy has become brown with age, the print quite faded, difficult to read. So, former Co. B. 9th Med. En. Buddies, if you wish to have a fresh photocopy of same, slightly revised, please "drop me a line."

34th FA A Btry  
NORRIS KAUTZ  
412 Page St  
Kewanee, IL 61443

What a surprise when we got home to find out that we will miss the reunion once again. We just came home from Orlando! If the reunion was 1 or 2 weeks earlier we could have made it. Maybe next time. May you and yours have a wonderful time sharing good times with our members. Enclosed are my dues.

## mail call

G Co/60th  
MR. R.M.A. HIRST  
Box 6801  
APO NY 09633-5422  
Tel.: (0 61 21) 30 48 91

At the moment my "free-writing" time is quite limited as I've begun to put together a manuscript comprising 25 years of research - the story of Stalingrad as told by over 400 former German staff officers whom I've interviewed over the years. Target date = spring 1988!

Either way I felt responsible to the membership for a response to the two letters you published in the March-April 1985 edition of the Octofoil from a former division military policeman.

Adolph Wadalavage. I do not feel the information should be restricted to either a Scottish historian or a German historian, but I am sure Mr. Wadalavage can reproduce this letter and post it on. The question: When did the Ludendorff (with two "f's") railroad bridge between Remagen and Erpel go down?

The most detailed and authentic account of the Bridge is perhaps contained in Ken Hechler's "The Bridge at Remagen," in which he tells one and all that "about three o'clock 17 March 1945" the bridge collapsed. Published in 1957 in both hard cover and paperback, it is recognized as the authority on the entire episode.

The most official US Army account is contained in Hq 1159 Engineer Combat Group's 19 March 1945 "Report on the Collapse of the Ludendorff the reports of eye witnesses attached hereto as Enclosure No. 2, it is possible to reconstruct the actual collapse of the bridge approximately as follows: Without apparent immediate cause, at about 1500 hours on 17 March 1945 the main span of the bridge suddenly gave way near the north pier . . . . Eye witness accounts include: Cpt Francis E. Goodwin S-4/1159 Eng Cbt Gp (at east abutment heading to the treadway bridge); LCol Clayton A. Rust CO/276 Eng Cbt Bn (on bridge at point south of center); MSgt Edwin A. Thompson, 1058 PC&R Unit (on the bridge over the north pier) and 1/Lt F.E. Obendes Asst S-3/1058 PC&R Unit (at tunnel entrance) among others.

Other accounts contained in Hq 1st Army Office of the Engineer May 1945, "Report of Rhine River Crossings," 276 Cbt Eng Bn 1946, "Rough and Ready," a unit history and our own "Eight Stars to Victory," which tells us it went down on Saint Patrick's Day!

This I trust would suffice to clear any cloud which hangs over any "historian's" head as to when the Ludendorff (with two "f's") railroad bridge became a memory. By the way, Dan, if Wadalavage had visited the Erpel museum while there he would have seen the copy of "The Remagen Bridgehead 7-17 March 1945," which I donated, and in its pages are the EXACT information presented here. All the best to all, Dan

47th Inf. K Co.  
JAMES DYE  
4796 New Milford Rd.  
Ravenna, Ohio 44266

I am very happy to announce that after many years of reserve duty, my biggest dream came true. My retirement from the U.S. Army is now here, never thought I would see the day come to reality. My dues are enclosed.

47th Inf C Co  
HOWARD D. BROOKS  
PO Box 141  
S. Harpswell, ME 04079

The March-April issue of the Octofoil has arrived and I found a couple of items about which I would like to comment.

First, I would like to say that I was 1st Sgt. of "C" Co. 47th Inf. (Acting) at the time of our deployment to France, following the establishment of the initial beachhead by other troops, and was appointed 1st Sgt. six weeks later. I knew T/Sgt. (then S/Sgt.) David S. Brown from Jan. 24th to Dec. 6th of 1941. Then from Jan. 8, 1942 until the time of his death in France. I still have a roster by platoon and squad of "C" Co. as we left for France. For a brief time in late '43 and early '44 Sgt. Brown was Acting 1st Sgt. then a 1st Sgt. was transferred into "C" Co. from an AA Battalion. He remained for a brief time, was then transferred out of "C" Co. and I was appointed. I, ALSO, wrote this and whatever other information I had to Ms. Lucille Hoover, Sgt. Brown's sister; so far I have not heard from the lady. I was with "C" Co. at the time, of course, and would have entered Sgt. Brown's name as KIA on the morning report we submitted, daily, to Battalion, war or no war! I have no recollection of the circumstances surrounding his death, nor have any of those of the company with whom I correspond at present. Sgt. Brown was Platoon Leader of the 4th Platoon at the time. I was "Present for Duty" from the time we left the USA for Africa to the end of the war in Europe, app. 33 months, except for three occasions when I was assigned, briefly, to attend a special instruction 'school' for rifle platoon tactics, removing an enemy minefield, etc. Unless someone was nearby at such a time, the exact details of any soldier's wounding and/or death is extremely difficult to recall at this late date, for one, or more reasons. If additional information happens to come to me, I, of course, will send it on to Sgt. Brown's sister.

Now, regarding your 'lead' story about the 'Remagen' Bridge . . . properly, the Ludendorff Bridge, which we all KNOW but continue to call it by the first name. We hear, and read, often, about its capture shortening the war by six months, etc. We rarely hear that it must have DISAPPOINTED many persons also, including the Russians. If it had not been captured intact, the Russians would have, no doubt, met US at the Rhine and not near the Roer as was the case, and there would be no West Germany today. This is probably what the Russians were hoping for, and also, a certain nucleus of advisors to the heads of the Allies. I wonder how France, Belgium, and most especially recalcitrant, and uncooperative Holland, would like THAT state of affairs instead of having West Germany for a buffer, as now. It has also intrigued me whether some German officers, presumably executed a short time later by the furious Nazis, did not detonate the explosive charges in place on the bridge because they realized that with the last bridge across the Rhine gone, the western Allies would be unable to bridge it again for months, and in the interval the Russians would sweep West to the Rhine and occupy the territory before we could, and decided to allow the Allies, mostly the Americans and British to get across the Rhine

and foil the Russian plan. We then, probably would have advanced the tremendous loans, a Russian Marshall Plan, to Russia as was being promoted by advisors to Truman, especially. After Stalin revealed his true intent at a meeting Truman saw it and refused the plan. I doubt any of those at the celebration of the anniversary of the capture of the bridge there at Remagen thought of its true import for certainly if it had happened that the Russians had driven to the Rhine all the residents of West Germany would have little to celebrate these days.

Oh, yes! In passing, I hope you all listened to Brokaw on NBC TV around the time of the anniversary of the bridge's capture, for he really explained to all of us 'dummies' that the proper way to pronounce 'Remagen' is to place the accent on the first syllable and NOT on the second as we all, usually, do. That is probably his ONLY contribution to the whole event from the day ONE! And, Dan, please send him a copy of the two installments of the history of the 9th Division's battle record so next year, if we are all here, we won't have to be bombarded with how 'Patton, McAuliffe, and 'Nuts!' won the Battle of the Bulge! Singlehandedly!

Okay! Next! The soapbox is all yours!

60th Inf. C Co.  
JOSEPH M. FOYE  
P.O. Box 445  
Auberry, Calif. 93602

What I'm going to relate to is when we were committed to do battle in the Sedjenane Valley. We could not keep a Lt. for very long and we were without one then.

I was on the crest of the hill in Rock Fox Hole for two days. The Germans intermittently had been throwing in 88-S. During one of these barrages, a fellow came running and fell into my Rock Fox Hole. After a lull he introduced himself as Lt. Arnold Herfkens. I said I knew a Herfkens in Hartington, Nebraska who owned the grain elevator. He said that's my father. When I told him who I was, he said he had watched me pitch baseball many times.

A few days later I was crouched in a dry creek bed and a bullet hit the sand three inches from my foot. Being a scout, I was ahead of my platoon. Alex Hubbard was close to me, then I heard the command from Captain Hardage, send two men across the open ground and attack. Sgt. Pinnegar said "Foye and Hubbard cover that open ground." Going up the hill Hubbard and I got separated. I was alone, a potato masher came flipping at me, but exploded short. I threw two grenades back. I fired my M. 1. until it jammed. Got it going again, moved forward and got 2 prisoners. By the time I got to the top of the hill I had seven. No one was around, so I took them down a path I found and located the C.P. Went back up and found my platoon.

Sgt. Pinnegar told me Lt. Herfkens had been hit and gave me a blanket to take to him. (A white one yet.) A bullet went over my head as I crawled to him. When I found him I was not sure it was him, so opened his shirt and read his dog tag. There was a bullet in the middle of his chest. After the war I had a nice dinner and visit with his parents back in Hartington. I think, if I remember right, it was Hill 168 and was told that was the last battle in Africa, not sure this is correct.

I often thought about the great training I received with the 9th Division. I got so accustomed to our artillery that I could follow it so close that the Germans could have been in their foxholes and we would be on top of them before they knew we were advancing.

Best regards to all.

I'm sorry we could not make the reunion in Florida, we are preparing our place in Auberry for sale and plan on returning to La Mesa, Calif., (southern California).

Love the Octofoil.

34th FA A Btry  
LEON R. BIRUM  
Rt 1 Box 59  
Union City, Ind. 47390

It's always a pleasure to receive each edition of the Octofoil. Enclosed is a check for three more years dues for the 9th Assoc.

This last year has been wonderful year in renewing old acquaintances in the 34th Bn. On June 6th, the 40th Anniversary of "D" Day, I received a telephone call from Stanley Szerwint, (a former 1st Sgt of "A" Btry), from Chicago. It was a pleasant surprise as I had not heard from him since '45. Since then we have held several phone conversations and exchanged WW2 books.

Stanley and his wife, Gertrude, are now in Europe. They intend to visit England, where he intends to visit Barton Stacey, then to France and a visit to the Invasion coasts. Then on to Greece, and then to Italy.

I also hear from Carl Bunyak regularly, who just recently moved from Detroit to Twining, Mich. His new address is 2752 Mapleridge Rd., Twining, 48766. He would like very much to hear from former "A" Btry friends.

On the way to Florida last winter, we visited with Lawrence Chadwick, (a former Lieutenant from Service Btry and his wife, in Nashville, Tenn. It was our first meeting since '45 and needless to say, we had a lot to talk about.

In Florida, we stayed near Sebring, and visited with William Yoder and his wife, Elinor. Bill was Barber for "A" Btry in Europe. He is an avid shuffle board player and they come to Sebring every winter.

The carrying of the 9th Div plate on my truck finally paid off. While in Sebring a lady recognized the plate and asked about it. Her husband and her had been stationed at Ft Bragg and he had gone Overseas with the 47th Inf-he was seriously wounded on the invasion and returned to the states. They had lost all contact with the 9th after his discharge.

They live in Florida because of his health. I sent them a copy of the Octofoil after I returned home and I received a nice letter from Mrs. Johnson, thanking me and stating that they had written to you so he could receive the paper regularly.

His address is, Doyt Johnson, 546 Von Maxcy Dr., Sebring, Fl. 33870 and if any one remembers him, I'm sure he would enjoy hearing from them.

On the way back to Indiana, we stopped in Chatsworth, Ga. and visited with Mack Jackson and his wife Eva. He was the Btry recorder for the Ex. Officer ("A" Btry) and was hit the same anti-personnel bomb that wounded Jim Swotchak after crossing the Rhine River. Mack spent two and a half years in the hospital and had thirteen operations. He just retired from the Postoffice in Chatsworth after thirty three years.

I correspond with Sheldon Stoddard and see him at the Mem. Mass. He is doing fine and says he and his wife, Myrtle, enjoy retirement and are busy.

Jim Swotchak has kept in touch since in the sixties and I have renewed old acquaintances with other members of "A" Btry and the 34th at Worcester. It really has been a memorable three years since my retirement. I now have accumulated thirty names and addresses of Thirty Fourth Battalion men.

Jesse Davis, a member of Service Btry, deserves a lot of credit for keeping contact with men from the battalion, and corresponds regularly with lots of them.

Also in Florida, we had the privilege of spending a few hours with Henry Santos and his wife at Tampa.

Even tho I'm retired from Westinghouse, I still farm and now is planting time in Indiana. We have had a beautiful spring and all the farmers are ahead of schedule in their work.

It has been nice visiting with you and keep up the good work.

34th FA  
DICK KEEGAN  
66 Coventry Court  
Merrimack, N.H. 03054

Thought I'd drop you a few lines as I have a change of address notice which will be at the bottom of this letter. How are things with you? Well I hope. Everything just fine with me. I guess when you have your health your the richest guy in the world. So I'm in pretty good shape for an old buzzard of 68 years come this Sept.

I thought it might be of interest to the men of the 34th F.A. Bn. who would remember John Stronach Of Medical Detachment 34th F.A. Well I learned last Dec. that John passed away in March of 1984. John didn't go over seas with us as he was sent out on cadre to Camp Claybourne La. in March of 1942. You never know whos alive or dead until the Christmas season when I hear from most the gang. So when I don't hear from these people I figure they have passed away or are incapacitated to a point that they can't correspond. Just one reason I never take my health for granted. Have a mild case of Diabetes which I have well under control latest medical checkup with Doctor.

So Dan with this letter I hope all is well with you. Will be in Worcester, Memorial Mass. come November.

47th Inf Co A  
JAMES MACEDO  
635 10th St  
Lyndhurst, N.J. 07071

Find enclosed my check for a life membership. As you must be aware from the records, I was one of the first persons to sign up in combat and help start our association back in the early forties. Since I at times am a little late in getting my dues updated, I think it will be most helpful to make it a life time member and not have to wonder if I am paid up. Due to personal commitments, I will not be able to make Orlando but do hope to make the next one in 1986. I often talk with my wife, Del, about the guys and often wonder how each one is getting along. Reminiscing is great, but there is nothing more pleasing than getting together in person with your buddies. I am looking ahead to next years reunion and God willing I'll be there. Say hello to the whole gang and wish them good health, good luck, happiness and a long life. God bless all.



**Co L 47th Inf**  
**WILLIAM D. FLEMING**  
7861 Praver Drive W.  
Jacksonville, Florida 32217

Your name was given me by a gentleman I met at a Woodcarving Show in March of this year in Sarasota Fla. I had carved a relief plaque of myself wearing the combat uniform, of that time and at the bottom of the plaque I had a brass plate that stated Staff Sgt. Co. L 47th Inf. Regiment, 9th Infantry Div. 1945. Woodcarving is my hobby and antique military uniforms is my specialty. All of this is what started our conversation. I was very busy at the time with customers (I also sell tools at these shows) and most of the conversation was with my wife and although she got your name and address, she did not get the name of the man who gave it to her.

I am writing for this reason. I am trying to find a Regimental Insignia for the above outfit and have had very little luck over the years. After four years in the service starting in March of 1939 in the Coast Artillery in Honolulu, I was sent back to Ft. Bliss Texas as an instructor on the 90 MM Anti-Aircraft Gun. I spent two years doing this and was sent to Camp Maxey Texas to receive my Non-Coms Infantry Training. From there I went to Germany and joined the 47th and Co. L the day we crossed the Bridge at Remagen. On the second day, after this we were attacking at night. We lost contact with our Company and the Platoon Officer sent me back to Battalion HQ to see if they had contact with them and on the way back my platoon had moved and I made contact with a squad and an Infantry Captain who had taken over an isolated farm house. At dawn, a German Infantry company moved in with a Tank and captured the remaining four who were still alive. As a non-com, I was separated from the other enlisted men and so was the Captain and from then till I was liberated, sent back to a re-hab center at Lehavre, thirteen days later and then back to Ft. Dix to be discharged on points. I had no contact with anybody from that Regiment or my Company. At the time of my discharge at Indiantown Gap, all I wanted was a ticket back to Pittsburgh and to be left alone. No uniform, no souvenirs, no enlistment in the Reserve and for many years, no desire to talk to anyone except my immediate family about my problems and attitude about anything military. It hurt my Dad when I refused to go hunting with him because I had pledged to God that I would never pick up another gun, and shoot anything.

Ten years ago, my wife sent to Washington a copy of my discharge papers and requested the medals I was entitled to because I had no interest in doing this myself and could care less. However, in the past five years as my interest in antique military uniforms has developed, my attitude has softened. Last week I attended a Gun and Knife Show here in Jacksonville, picked up a Garand Rifle and handled a Thompson Sub-machine Gun and a Carbine and an old Springfield 1903 Rifle (my first rifle) and realized I was a very small part of American History and was a little proud of it. That was the first time I picked up a gun since my discharge in 1945.

Can you be of any help by sending me a name of someone who might help me get that Regimental Insignia or someone who collects this type of thing and may have some they would like to sell. It would be very much appreciated.

**60th Inf. Hq. Co.**  
**BUCK HARRIS**  
301 Wilson St.  
Elm City, N.C. 27822

Enclosed is dues for the next year and a donation to the Memorial Fund. I attended the reunion in Fayetteville and I'm making plans for Nashville. I'd like to hear from my old buddies including George Brown, Melvin Kearns, Kelly, Red Lafferty, Manual Saldana and Bedsele who was from Dethan, Ala., and went with me from Camp Wheeler to the 60th in January 1942. I wish I had known about the Octofoil a long time ago.

**A, B, C, D & HQ Co's. and S-3, 1st Bn. 39th**  
**CHARLIE SCHEFFEL**  
8620 N. Glenwood Ave.  
Oklahoma City, Ok. 73114

Was sorry that I couldn't make the Orlando Convention. Believe it or not a friend and I went back to Africa for two months and visited about 18 countries on the West Coast!

Noticed in the Octofoil where Ross Manley had made a contribution to the Memorial Fund.

I have not seen him since June, 1944, was his Co. Ex. Officer in Sicily; and I would like to get in touch with him.

I appreciate the good work you have done all the years, hope to make the next reunion.

Would you believe that our Son, Lee, is Captain, Ranger-Paratrooper-Jungle Expert — made Grenada "intervention", now in Ft. Bragg with Special Forces. Asked me a while back why I never told him anything about infantry action — told him, "You never asked me". Dan, it's still a good thing for our country and the world that there are still a lot of good young men around.

Thanks for help on this.

**47th Inf. G Co.**  
**JEROME SHAPIRO**  
739 W 186th St.  
New York, N.Y. 10033

Just finished reading the Octofoil and enjoyed it very much. I'm keeping busy and doing a lot of reading. Still trying to locate Isidore Lehman of E Co. 47th and Arthur Gardiner, nee Goldberger of G & Hq Co. 47th 2nd Batt. Where are they? Does anyone know? Busy with granddaughters 5th birthday, she had 20 children and a magician and clown at the party. She's a real social butterfly. God bless her and all the grandchildren of 9th division men! Can't make the Worcester affair because our nephew is being Bar Mitzvahed on that Saturday, but will see you all at the Christmas party in December and then on to Nashville.

**39th Inf. M Co.**  
**MAURICE LAMBERT**  
525 2nd Ave. Apt. 211  
Woonsocket, R.I. 02895

We visited Europe last September with a tour group honoring the 40th anniversary of the invasion. It was surprising and gratifying to revisit the places we had seen all destroyed now reconstructed. I even went to the Remagen Bridge and brought back a piece of the bridge. It was quite emotional because of the good friends I lost during this time. I want to let you know that we have moved and I would hate to lose my Octofoil because I look forward to reading all of it. Thank you for your courtesy and thoughtfulness.

**60th Inf L Co**  
**JOHN HALEY**  
8716 Parkland St.  
Manassas, Va. 22111

Sorry I've been so long getting back to you. There has been a lot of sickness and death in our family. I did enjoy the Octofoil and I'm enclosing a life membership.

**60th Inf L Co**  
**JAMES SCHAUF**  
9820 W. Becher St.  
West Allis, Wi. 53227

Found out about the Octofoil at the ex POW convention in Milwaukee so I'm enclosing a check and wish to become a member. I am searching for and wish to hear from anyone that served in L Co 60th that left Norfolk, Va. by boat Oct. 23, 1942 and arrived in French Morocco and Algiers Nov. 8, 1942. We fought 3 battles when I was wounded and captured in a terrain, Maknasy along with my captain from Michigan who was seriously wounded and believe he did not survive. They took me to Sicily by plane, then to Italy by train and ferry where I was hospitalized for 8 months. Then taken by train to Hammerstein Stalag 2B and sent to work on a farm. Was imprisoned for 27 months ending with death march for 4 months before being liberated.

**60th Inf B Co**  
**GEORGE CYPHERS**  
18011 Windward Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44119

Since a note from a B Co 60th man seems to be a rarity, I thought I'd better get one off. Enclosed are my dues and something for the Memorial fund. Sorry we couldn't make the reunion in Orlando. Neither my wife nor I go for the heat there but we will try for Nashville. The thought of the one in the Poconos sounds very good. We continue to enjoy good health and our retirement, and are signed up for a cruise of the Tahitian Islands early next spring. It should be delightful.

**9th Med C Co. Hqs.**  
**CHARLES DUNCAN**  
1034 Haledale  
Memphis, TN 38116

I was with the 9th Med. Bn from Fort Bragg days until the end of the war. While I remember the faces of the old bunch, I have forgotten many names. One name I remember and often thought of over the years was Andy Andriola. Andy got in touch with me through the company I had worked for and we have started corresponding. Sorry can't make Orlando.

**47th Inf. H Co.**  
**JOHN POPP**  
24 Wolfe Dr.  
Bethlehem  
Wheeling, W. VA 26003

I was in H Co. from the time it was reactivated with the NCO's coming from Texas and we were in Tent City at that time. Our first group of draftees came from New York and they were in WW 1 uniforms. It was a sight to see! It would be nice to have a chapter in this area, also a reunion here would be ideal. We have one of the best park systems in the US. It is called Ogleby Park with 2 golf courses. I'm sure it could take care of a reunion. This is just a thought. If there is anyone who cares to write to me as I would like to hear from some of my old friends. I have a diary that I kept all these years and pictures taken at Ft. Bragg prior to going overseas.

**60th Inf. F Co.**  
**GEORGE ARNOLD**  
207 Westfall Dr.  
Syracuse, N.Y. 13219

Enclosed find a check for my dues. Having had a most wonderful time at the last 2 reunions meeting former members of F Co., am looking forward to Orlando.

If man thinks for one minute he can understand woman, he has it timed about right.

**47th Inf Hq & G Co**  
**SPENCER NORWOOD**  
635 30th Ave. W #211 F  
Bradenton, Fl. 33505

I get to thinking of times of long ago with the 9th. Parts are still very clear. I recall crawling over the landing net from the ship that we crossed the Atlantic on. It was out from Safi always at about 1:30 AM on the morning of Nov. 8, 1942. We got into an LCT and circled the ocean till about 5 AM before landing. As we got off the craft there was a wounded Arab soldier moaning on the sand near by. We moved on to a large building and waited till it got light. Then there was periodic sniping which continued off and on most of the day. In a couple days we marched back to town. The French had given up. Part of the 47th walked to Port Lyautey. Then thru the Kasserine Pass, on to Gafsa and El Guettar, to Northern Tunisia. The division started to click and we did a good job ending up in Bizerte. Everyone wanted to see the first big town we took, so Col. Randle walked us from one end to the other and all we saw were beat up buildings and 2 cats! Then on to the hot, fly infested area south of Magenta. At least it was better than being in battle. Soon we started walking to Oran and I believe it was 123° in the shade! We boarded ships and landed in Palermo and after walking up and down mountains it finally came to an end near Mt. Etna. We then boarded ships again for jolly old England! I enjoy reading all the letters in the Octofoil. Keep it coming.

**47th Inf Cannon Co**  
**WARREN (Bud) Bascone**  
520 Princeton Blvd.  
Wenonah, N.J. 08090

Learned that Chet Zajkowski had passed away. He was with Cannon Co. Enjoy the Octofoil and going through the letters is a constant reminder of the great bunch of guys we were all fortunate enough to have served with.

**47th Inf. K. Co.**  
**DOYT JOHNSON**  
546 Von Maxey Dr.  
Sebring, Fl. 33870

I would like to hear any information on Major Simson. I think he is located around Orlando, Fl. I live in Sebring which would not be too far. I was company runner for K Co. and always had great respect and admiration for Major Simson as he not only gave the orders but participated right along at your side. I'm in bad health, the reason for moving to Florida, and would appreciate any info anyone can give me on the Major.

**47th Inf. Hq Co. AT Pl.**  
**EDWARD SLOSSON, JR.**  
63 Sherwood Pl.  
Greenwich, Ct. 06830

This past June 27 reached the great age of 70 yrs. young! The year before had an operation on right knee replaced with plastics and steel at my hospital in Greenwich and all paid by Medicare, etc. Every day I swim in Long Island Sound for an hour or more. Doctors orders, no walking but driving the car around to markets, etc. Have heard from De Forest, Coffee, and Crawford over the years. They have come to my home and talked about old times. Best regards to all the gang at Hq. 1st Bn AT Pl. I never hear from them. Still under Doctors care, almost 34 years.

**60th Inf. Medic**  
**LARRY DOHERTY**  
3755 NW 13 St.  
Miami, FL 33126

I was introduced to the Octofoil by my good buddy Joe Negrin of Riverdale, N.Y., with whom I served for several years. I am enclosing dues plus a little for the Memorial Fund.

**47th Inf Med's**  
**C.B. BAKER**  
2001 Oakland Avenue  
Johnson City, TN 37601  
Dear Dan,

Here is the photo of Lou Sieben that I promised to send to you as we talked in Orlando. Dr. Hagood had it labeled Lou Sieben & The Goomes. I remember the men that were in Africa called each other a Goome, and I could never figure if that was good or bad. Now I see where the word came from. I guess they were just teasing each other.

I am also sending you a copy of another photo made in Africa. It was another Dr. Hagood had. Major Roberts, Captain Plotkin, Captain Hagood, Chaplain Sharp and Lt. Abend, all from Regiment 47th. I sure was glad to get these photos, as I did not have any pictures of anyone from our Regimental Section. I have been looking for a photo of Colonel Smythe, Colonel Ward and General Eddy to place in the book I showed you in Orlando.

While at the meeting I got to meet Colonel Tanner from the 2nd. Bn. I had read about him through the years in the History of the 47th. Inf., but I had never met him. He is a fellow Tennessean from Union City. That is about four hundred fifty miles from Johnson City. Around a hundred fifty miles from Nashville. I have been through his town one weekend and many years ago when I was in mortuary school. A friend in my class lived near his home town. He certainly impressed me as being a real gentleman.

Colonel Tanner told me he had sent you a photo made in Sicily that had Lt. Anderson (later Captain Anderson) from C Company in it along with some other officers. I was one of the medics in C Company from England to Germany when I was moved back to the Bn. Aid Station. After you run this photo in the Octofoil, I would like to copy it for my album, and then return it to you. I have a source that I can get a negative made and some copies. I would like to mail Captain Anderson a copy, as I am in touch with him.

Think I told you that I had heard from Major Roberts lately, and that he has had a triple by pass and has had his right leg amputated. He is adjusting to a new limb at present. I want to write him about the meeting in Orlando, as he asked me to do. He practiced medicine until he had the surgery, so he recently retired.

I have a photo of Spagnola that I would be glad to mail to his wife if you have her address. She might have a copy, but it would be worth a shot to try to send her a copy. I remember reading in the Octofoil of his death, but I do not remember an address.

Remember Sgt. Huddy from the 1st. Bn. Medics? He was promoted to Lt. and his Jeep hit a mine some time after that. Think I remember his being from New Jersey. He was a Sgt. when I came to the 1st. Bn. in Alresford, England. Spagnola and Lott were the two T/3's in the outfit. Can't remember what happened to Lott. He was from Mississippi and came all the way from the Fort Bragg days.

Guess I had better wind up for this time. Wish we could have talked some more in Orlando. There are several people that I would like to ask about. I appreciate your friendship very much.

Nashville in 1986



## MAIL CALL

47th Inf. G Co.  
HERMON RAHN  
5599 New Hendersonville Hw.  
Pisgah Forest, NC 28768

The reunion in Orlando was great. It was wonderful to see and talk to buddies Louis Rullan, George and Paula Bako, Eddie Maher, Mac McDaniel and Clara, Mike Sanchez and Marline along with good old Jerry Shapiro, the ranking PFC in the 47th! It was also great to see my buddy Frank Crapanzano of AT Company 60th and James Johnson of A Company 47th with his wife Beatrice. We missed Edwin Brewer of L Co. 60th. Another highlight at Orlando for me was to finally shake hands with Gen. Randle and talk with him, also to meet Dan and Marie. Pat Morano and Art Stenzel asked for our thoughts on reunion sites and banquets, so here are mine. 4581 of our buddies cannot attend and I'm sure they would be glad to attend anywhere. I don't care where it is held as I will go if I can. I will not look for failures or mistakes. I will back the committee 100%. Just being together with my buddies is fine. I don't think any of us are looking for a Nobel Prize. Our goal is enjoyment with friends, so let's quit griping and enjoy it.

39th Inf. K Co.  
C.E. BLANKENSHIP, SR.  
2715 Dorset Rd.  
Richmond, Va. 23234

Thanks very much for getting my last letter in Mail Call. Here is another.

Sorry I missed the reunion but the good Lord willing, I am going to be there next year. Have always wanted to go to Nashville anyhow so next year should be a real treat.

Received a very fine letter from Wm. (Bill) Morrison down in Port Richey, Fla. He was in the 39th, but in "A" Co. I told him that it was just like hearing from a ghost out of the past, actually to hear from someone that was over there with you 40 years ago. Letters from anyone in the 9th are always welcome.

When I was back over there this March we went to the cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach. The man in charge in the Memorial Building showed us our Division Book and we signed and looked up some of the names listed there of the guys who were buried there.

He then told me something that I had never heard before and I wish someone in the 9th would look into it and maybe publish the information in the Octofoil so all the members of the 9th would know. It seems that every year in a little town in France, they have what is known as The Paddy Flint Walk. I have forgotten the name of the town but the guy said that each year that veterans of the 9th come there and make this walk in honor of Paddy Flint. It is either a mile or two mile walk. I don't remember which. I think he said there is a statute or some kind of monument to Paddy Flint there in the town. Would appreciate any information you could publish on it.

That's about all for this time. The best of everything to all the members of the 9th and especially "K" Co. of the 39th 1st platoon.

47th Inf AT  
JOHN FILIDORO  
6247 Randolph Rd.  
Bedford Hts., Ohio 44146

I met a friend from the service and he told me of the association. I was proud to be a part of the 9th. Hope I may someday meet some of my great buddies. Enclosed find membership dues.

60th Inf.  
ALBERT M. HODGE  
2 Cove Dr.  
Forest Cove Dev.  
Savannah, Ga. 31419

Just thought I would write a few lines. Mabel and I enjoyed the Reunion at Orlando, and hopefully we will be able to attend the one next year in Nashville, Tenn. We were there a few years back on an organized tour, and must say we were overly impressed with it.

When we attend reunions such as ours, the event that really effects me most is the MEMORIAL SERVICE. I just can't seem to extricate myself from the loss of our many Friends, Relatives, and Fellow Soldiers all across this Great Land of Ours who made the supreme sacrifice.

I regret that our unit did not have a better attendance in Orlando than we did, but sometimes circumstances are such that people can't make it. Normally such regulars as Mike Deresh, Paul Drummond, J. Graff Bomberger, Fred Mulcaster, Roger Schaeffer as well as others in other Units attend, and may I say their absence was most conspicuous. We were happy to see those who did make it viz., Charles Duling, Wm. J. Engle, John Kocay, and to our utter surprise - One Charles Sanders from Dallas, Texas. May I add that this was his First. All of those just mentioned were accompanied by their Lovely Wives.

What I shall mention now is not in the least to be construed as mere flattery, but in my judgment fair and true. WILLIAM J. ENGLE, I normally call him J. Wm., should indeed be commended to the HIGHEST for his Faithfulness in attendance. His unceasing compassion. In addition to the regular Reunion he likewise has been a real stalwart in the on-going process of Our 9th Inf. Div. Assoc. including the Annual Memorial Service fostered by Father Connors. In conclusion we likewise commend You Dan and Your Lovely Wife for a Job Well Done.

PS Failed to mention that Milton Cordray, and Sidney Caddin of the 60th Inf. from Charleston, S.C., are faithful attendants too.

84th FA  
PETE RICE  
9722 Boedeker  
Dallas, Tx. 75202

My son-in-law, during the 40th Anniversary of the Remagen Bridge, television coverage of the Bridge during its last few days. Since I stood, with two of my guys, in the mouth of the tunnel, and ran out on the bridge five, six or seven time a day, my son-in-law said he would like to have a copy of the television tape to show his son "that is where Granddad spent six scary days and nights".

Do you know how we might get any of this coverage? I guess it had to be Signal Corps film that was used by the networks?

Certainly enjoyed meeting you, finally, in Florida and seeing General Chip Maness and Father O'Conner, and so many, many others.

June 26-28  
Reunion in Nashville  
1986

39th Inf. F Co.  
WILLIAM H. MALONEY, JR.  
120 Broadway  
New York, N.Y. 10271

Inoted the name of Ross Manley in "Tip of the Hat". I lost track of him many years ago. I hope he sees this. — Except for the obit of Ed Garvey, this is the first note in the Octofoil of 39th people I knew. — I have become friendly with the son of one of our 2nd Bn. buddies (Aaron A. Abady) here in NYC. "Ab" passed away in Richmond, Va. in the 60s. — I was in Cherbourg a few weeks ago and took a picture of the plaque on the Hotel de Ville honoring Sgt. Finley.

Here are the photos of the Hotel de Ville in Cherbourg.

The plaque reads as follows:

To the memory of Sergeant William F. Finley 39th Inf. Regt. of the 9th American Division fallen on the field of honor in Germany the 1st of April 1945 at the age of 20 years. He was the first to arrive at this town hall the 26th of June, 1944.

In the evening Cherbourg re-found its liberty.

I never heard of the plaque before. I hope that the Association has some place to keep the pictures.

47th Inf. M Co.  
W.H. Horan  
386 Victoria Dr.  
Columbus, Ga. 31907

I have been informed by H.G. Phillips that you are the secretary, therefore, I would like to join. Somehow I lost track of the association. Please find check enclosed and get me back on the rolls.

\*\*\*\*\*

47th Inf. M Co.  
Thomas J. Morgan  
508 Morton Circle  
Chattanooga, Tn. 37415

I'm very sorry and ashamed that I have not supported the association for so long. I have never been able to attend a convention and has lost all contact with the old gang until I had contact with Bill Kowalczyk and Red Phillips from whom I received his book Heavy Weapons. Excellent! It brought back many memories and I am looking forward to the Nashville convention.

39th Inf. A Co.  
THOMAS BOWER  
23 Roslyn Rd.  
Sound Beach, N.Y. 11789

I look forward to reading the Octofoil, especially Mail Call. I was lucky. I found a few friends from A Co. 39th and tracked down an old buddy, Felix Boibeaux from New Caenen, Ct. We were at Camp Blanding together and served with the 9th. Felix was with the 47th and I with the 39th. I am still looking for Refugio Luna from Bakersfield, Cal., Hill Luker from Tulsa, Okla., Sgt. Stuart, Lt. Anthony and Sgt. Sullivan from North Carolina, or anyone from Co. A from Oct. 1944 to Apr. 1945. Looking forward to receiving information about these men.

60th Inf. E Co.  
LAWRENCE EMMERICH  
751 Greenleaf St.  
Allentown, Pa. 18102

Haven't the foggiest idea when my subscription runs out, so enclosed find a check before the red shows up and a little extra for the Memorial Fund. Enjoy the paper immensely and have made contact with several friends from my old outfit because of it. The best to all of you for years to come.

Hdqs. Co. 9th Div.  
JAMES G. RUBIZZI  
1230 Biltmore Ave.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15216

Just found my membership card and noticed my dues are due. I enjoy the Octofoil and read it from beginning to end.

JOHN J. CLOUSER  
P.O. BOX 268  
WETMORE, MI. 49895

THE OCTOFOIL Publication No. 402820  
412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Second Class Postage paid at Union City, N.J. Authorized as of October 1, 1967

39th Inf F Co  
ED J. MCNAMARA  
Church St.  
Brookfield, N.Y. 13314

Saw the notice of F Co 39th 6th annual reunion and wrote to Ray and Laverne Hanks. I couldn't attend this year but if any 9th men travel through N.Y. State on Rt 20 with campers they are all welcome to use my electric hook up by my shop. It's located 1/2 mile west of the stop light in Bridgewater where Rt 8 and 20 cross. It's on the north side of Rt 20 by a yellow pole barn with an antique sign on the side. I don't live in the trailer so I am only there now and then but the hook up is free and permission is not required. We also have a camp ground on the hill behind the shop for self contained units. Dick and Lori Neely stopped on their way west from a trip through the New England states. Stayed all nite and had a great time. Would like to hear from any 9th men but especially F Co 39th 2nd Plt 2 squad. It's been 7 years since I lost a kidney to cancer and weigh 40 lbs more then that 40 years ago. If in the area my phone is 315-899-5893.

709 Ord  
JOHN LESKO  
3981 W. 22nd St  
Cleveland, OHIO 44109

Very happy to receive the Octofoil and read all the news about the men of the 9th. See you in Nashville and once again thanks ever so much.

47th M Co & QM  
WILTON TAYLOR  
Stop 6 Star Rt  
McKittrick, Ca. 93251

Just received a letter from HJ Phillips of Penn Valley Ca. telling of the passing of our good friend and buddy Richard Kinkennon. His wife said he had been suffering since last fall and died Aug. 15th last. I miss him as he, Jack Shepherd and Rufus McCallom of Oklahoma were together in M Co 47th, Ft. Bragg to England where I was separated to Quartermaster by a back ailment. Thanks again for good friends like the Kinkennons. He and his wife drove over 200 miles to visit with us in Missouri where we were visiting relatives. Best to all.

60th Inf G & Serv Co  
LEO GULLY  
37 E Quincy St.  
Westmont, IL 60559

Here are my dues for another 3 years. Been getting along pretty good but go in every 6 months for a checkup. The wife and I have been spending the last 3 winters in Texas. Sorry we missed Orlando but hope to make Nashville.

9th Signal  
CARL WOOD  
23 Orange Blossom St.  
Nokomis, FL 33555

It's time to change my address from North to South and enclosing dues. I enjoy getting the Octofoil and from time to time come across familiar names. If any old buddies read this, how about getting in touch.

People who drink too many spirits become a ghost of their former self.

47th Inf K Co  
GEORGE NICKLIN  
6 Butler Pl  
Garden City, N.Y. 11530

I am enclosing a photograph which is a copy of a photograph that I got from Bud Nedwell, who was the clerk for K Company, 47th Regiment, and was with the regiment from its formation at Fort Bragg until it completed World War II with its arrival at Dachau.

For the Octofoil, I have a videotape which I made of the 40th Reunion at Orlando and copies are available. The tape is of the business session with General Maness' talk, and there is also a second tape with a series of short interviews with some of the 47th Regiment members, including Father Connors. The total cost per tape is \$50.00 plus mailing. You can specify which tape you want — the business session or the tape with the individual members — I think there are eight members on it.

39th Inf G Co  
WILLIAM CANARY  
5 Eagle Dr.  
Whiting, N.J. 08759

Just a note to let you know that my wife (Marion) and I thoroughly enjoyed the 40th reunion of the Division, which happened to be our first reunion. The Florida Chapter and the National Officers did an outstanding job in welcoming everyone and having such a wonderful program, including the most impressive Memorial Service and program.

During the re-union I met a few old fox-hole buddies and we re-hashed old times. I am enclosing a picture taking at the re-union of members who at one time or another served with Company "G" 39th Infantry.

The Guidon in the picture is the original from when the 39th Co. "G" was formed at Fort Bragg in 1941. It's seen a lot of battles.

60th Inf M Co  
H. F. STANSELL  
217 River Beach Dr.  
Ormond Beach, FL 32074

We had a most enjoyable time at the Orlando reunion as it was my first. I got to see some men I hadn't seen in 40 years. Joe Williams and the Florida chapter are to be commended for a big job well done. In August we went to Oshkosh, Wis. for the 60th M Co mini reunion. We had 25 men and their wives except one man showed up with a Kentucky "Moonshiner." If anyone doesn't know what a Kentucky "Moonshiner" is I will be glad to show them one, as the "Moonshiner" came to Florida in my car. Allen and Mary Luce did an excellent job hosting the reunion. Exact dates will be announced later for next years reunion. Good health and best wishes.

